

REMARKS

This response is submitted in reply to the Final Office Action dated March 31, 2005. Claim 1-59 are pending in the patent application. Claims 1-12, 19-21 and 25-59 have been allowed. Claims 13, 15, 22 and 24 have been amended. Claims 14, 16, 17 and 23 have been canceled. New claims 60, 61 and 62 have been added. No new matter has been added by any of the amendments made herein.

Claims 13, 17 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Claims 14-16, 18, 23 and 24 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicant respectfully submits, for the reasons set forth below, that the claims are in condition for allowance.

The Office Action states that claims 14-16, 18, 23 and 24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has rewritten the objected claims as follows to place the objected claims in condition for allowance.

Claim 13 has been amended to include the element of objected to claim 14. Claim 14 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 15 has been amended to depend from amended claim 13.

New claim 60 includes the elements of independent claim 13 and objected to claim 16.

New claim 61 includes the elements of independent claim 13 and objected to claim 18.

Claim 22 has been amended to include the element of claim 23. Claim 23 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 24 has been amended to depend from amended claim 22.

Claims 13, 17 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,586,839 to Gillespie ("Gillespie"). Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection. Nevertheless, Applicant has amended claims 13 and 22 as described above to place these claims in condition for allowance.

Additionally, claim 17 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claim 62 has been added and includes the elements of canceled claim 17. New claim 62 depends from claim 18, instead of claim 13. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 13 and 22, and new claim 62, are each patentably distinguished from Gillespie and in condition for allowance.

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-13, 15, 18-22 and 24-62 are patentable over the art of record and in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 1-13, 15, 18-22 and 24-62 be deemed allowable at this time and that a timely notice of allowance be issued in this case.

A check in the amount of \$400.00 is submitted herein to cover the cost for the newly added claims. If any other fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Patent Office is authorized to deduct such fees from Deposit Account No. 02-1818. If such a withdrawal is made, please indicate the attorney docket number (114663-006) on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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